

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4137

ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000

EXPENDITURE ON REPUBLIC DAY PARADE BEATING RETREAT

RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent on Republic Day Parades and Beating Retreats during each of the last three years and the income derived as a result of sale of tickets, separately on these occasions;
- (b) the number of passes issued during the above period for watching Republic Day Parades and Beating Retreats on the requests of Hon'ble Members and other public representatives;
- (c) the details of norms laid down for issue of passes on the requests of public representatives;
- (d) whether these norms were duly observed;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the effective steps being taken by the Government to reduce the expenditure on Republic Day celebrations?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOKSABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4137 FOR 20.4.2000.

Although the Ministry of Defence is responsible for organising the Republic Day Parade and the Beating Retreat Ceremony at New Delhi every year, the organisation of these ceremonies requires co-ordinated efforts of various Central Ministries and Departments, the State Governments, the Union Territory Administrations, the Central Public Sector Undertakings, Local Bodies and various other agencies. As expenditure on various items regarding these arrangements is borne by the concerned organisations/agencies and is not compiled or exhibited under one Head, it is not possible to indicate the amount spent on these ceremonies during each of the last three years.

2. The details of income from the sale of tickets on these occasions during the last three years are as given below:

	1998	1999	2000
Republic Day Parade	Rs. 9,77,140	Rs. 9,81,070	Rs. 9,90,640
Beating Retreat	Rs. 62,525	Rs. 64,650	Rs. 51,580
Total:	Rs. 10,39,665	Rs. 10,45,720	Rs. 10,42,220

3. Invitation cards/passess for the Republic Day Parade/Beating Retreat Ceremonies are issued by a temporary office set up for the purpose every year and the records pertaining to issue of Invitation Cards are maintained for one year only.

4. As per the laid down norms, Cabinet Ministers, the State Ministers and the Members of Parliament are issued 20, 12 and 6 invitation cards/passess for their guests, respectively. These norms were duly observed. However, additional requirements of Ministers/MPs were also met to the extent possible. For the Republic Day Parade and Beating Retreat Ceremonies of this year, 5315

and 2716 invitation cards/passes were issued to guests of Ministers and MPs respectively.

5. All the concerned organisations/agencies are expected to follow the general guidelines on economy in expenditure issued by Government.